

REMARKS

In paragraph 3 of the Office Action, claims 1, 3-6 and 8-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Munshi in view of Fu.

Reconsideration is requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to point out that the solid electrolyte and the positive electrode exist in a mixed state in the interface between the solid electrolyte and the positive electrode and/or the solid electrolyte and the negative electrode exist in a mixed state in the interface between the solid electrolyte and the negative electrode. The basis for the amendment to claim 1 is the specification at page 6, lines 11-22 and in original claims 18-20 where the technique of forming the solid electrolyte on the electrodes by a coating process which results in a mixed electrolyte and electrode at the interface.

The mixed state is formed by coating the electrode layer and coating the solid electrolyte directly on the electrode layer without an intermediate drying step. Forming the electrolyte layer as a thin film and causing the solid electrolyte and the positive electrode to form in the mixed state in the interface between the electrolyte layer and the electrode layer results in reduced resistance to conductance in the lithium ion inorganic substance. The result is a lithium ion secondary battery having high capacity and a high output along with excellent charging and discharging characteristics.

The Munshi patent was applied as teaching a solid electrolyte for lithium batteries where the electrolyte is 0.2 μ m - 3 μ m thick. The electrolyte is made of a polymer, a salt and an ion conducting material and the lithium ion conductive inorganic substance. There is no suggestion of coating the electrolyte onto an electrode which results in a different structure from the "flexible, dry, non-tacky" solid electrolyte of Munshi. Amended claim 1 and the claims that are dependent on amended claim 1 define a different and unobvious structure from that taught by Munshi.

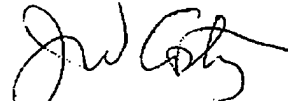
Fu does disclose a lithium ion conductive glass-ceramic but does not mention forming a solid electrolyte on an electrode such that the electrolyte and the electrode have a

mixed state at the interface. Even if Munshi and Fu are combined, they fail to suggest any structure that makes the structure defined by amended claim 1 obvious.

For these reasons, it is requested that this ground of rejection be withdrawn.

An early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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